

NOTTINGHAM COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 23, Issue 3

May / June 2021

Submission from the Nottingham SAU Planning Committee:

On June 8, voters in Nottingham will be asked to consider Warrant Article #3 concerning the future of the Nottingham School District's participation in SAU #44 with Northwood:

"Shall the School District accept the provisions of RSA 194-C providing for the withdrawal from a school administrative unit involving school districts of Nottingham and Northwood in accordance with the provisions of the proposed plan?"

A "yes" vote on Warrant Article #3 would approve the Planning Committee's recommendation in the proposed plan to withdraw from the SAU.

What would this mean for Nottingham? Last March, Nottingham voters approved a warrant article to form a Planning Committee to review and consider the School District's options to remain in or withdraw from SAU #44. Strafford School District has already voted to withdraw from the SAU effective July 1, 2021. The Nottingham Planning Committee spent many months reviewing the impact of Strafford's upcoming withdrawal and the resulting apportionment of operating costs and responsibilities between Nottingham and Northwood. The Committee's report recommending withdrawal is available on the Nottingham School website, go to: <https://www.nottingham.k12.nh.us/>

The Nottingham Planning Committee estimated the financial impact of withdrawal by analyzing the SAU budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22 and the approximate costs of operating as a single-district SAU. The Committee estimated that approximately \$150,000 could be saved in operating costs by combining or reducing personnel positions, consolidating work, and locating the SAU office in Nottingham.

Projected financial savings is only one factor to consider. Other considerations include autonomy/local control over the appropriations of the Nottingham community's resources, as well as having our school district administrators focused solely on creating the best educational experiences for the students of Nottingham. Withdrawal from the SAU would not impact the current Step-By-Step Preschool contract with Northwood or the high school contracts already in place for Nottingham students. More information about the Planning Committee's proposal and the impact of withdrawal is available in the Committee's report. If voters approve Warrant Article #3, a transition committee will spend the following year preparing for the single-district SAU.

News from the Nottingham Women's Club

If you are thinning out your closets this spring and have some formal dresses to donate, we know just the place! The Angel Babies organization accepts gently used wedding/formal dresses from which they create dressing gowns for babies who have passed away. If you have dresses to donate, reach out to us at Nottingham.WomensClub@gmail.com to arrange a drop off time. We will be collecting dresses through June 30th. Thank you for supporting Angel Babies.

We have begun our planning for our October Scarecrow Contest. We hope to get together in person later this summer to assemble the scarecrows and paint faces. We've always had fun at this annual event and with extra volunteers, the assembly process moves quickly. We'll announce the date soon, so please watch for that. We meet the last Thursday of every month and we always welcome new members. Learn more about us and our community projects from our website (noted above) and/or on our Facebook page, @nottinghamwomensclub. Happy Spring!



School Space Advisory/Facility Committee Update

The Space Advisory Facility Committee comprised of community members, teachers, administration, and school board members continues to work with Samyn-D’Elia Architects and Eckman Construction on the communications aspect of the Nottingham School Addition/Renovation Project with voting day coming up on June 8.

School Warrant Article #1 will ask Nottingham voters to consider a \$6.2M bond. Passage of Article #1 would allow the Nottingham School Addition/Renovation Project to move forward with construction.

What does the school improvement project include? The proposed design addresses the current space deficiencies in our school by:

- Creating 3 new Kindergarten classrooms that meet state guidelines
- Reclaiming space allowing for 3 classrooms per grade level to keep class size manageable
- Providing adequate space for small group instruction/intervention services
- Adding a preschool classroom
- Reclaiming classroom space for Computer/STEM classroom
- Converting an existing 6th-grade classroom to a Science Lab for the 6th grade, allowing more lab opportunities for 6-8th grades as each would then have their own lab
- Providing the opportunity to offer World Language & Enrichment programs
- Creating a new Music classroom that meets guidelines for square footage
- Providing a dedicated Health classroom
- Providing dedicated gym storage, allowing the use of the Boys & Girls locker rooms to resume

How would the \$6.2M bond impact Nottingham taxpayers? The SAU Business administrator has

estimated the annual costs to households based on the following estimates for interest rates that were provided by the NH Municipal Bond Bank for a summer 2021 buy. The tax impact is the greatest in the second year of the term and decreases over the life of the loan.

Below are the estimated rates and terms with the estimated annual tax increase for year 2 calculated using a \$300,000 home value:

- 1.5% for a 10-year term: \$267
- 2.0% for a 15-year term: \$201
- 2.5% for a 20-year term: \$174

The estimated interest rates are conservative as the actual rates have been lower than anticipated. The first-year tax impact includes interest only with the following years including interest and declining principal. Impact fees may be applied to interest to lower the tax impact.

To view design plans and to learn more details about the need for this project, please visit www.nottinghamschoolproject.com.

Nottingham Community Church, Unitarian-Universalist

We are a welcoming community to people of all faiths and creeds. Our weekly services are held on Sundays at 10:00 AM on our Facebook Live page [@nottinghamcommunitychurch](https://www.facebook.com/nottinghamcommunitychurch) and led by Interfaith Minister Craig Werth. We look forward to being able to resume in-person gatherings in our historic church building when it is safe for our community to do so. Our monthly coffeehouse/open mic night is online on the first and third Thursdays of every month at 7 pm. Please see our website at www.nottinghamuu.com for more information and updates or email reverend Craig Werth at revcraigwerth@gmail.com for pastoral care.

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Community Spotlight

Submitted by Charlotte Fyfe

This issue’s Community Spotlight shines on: **Chelli Tennis**, Director of the Nottingham Food Pantry

Q: What do you do?

A: I plan the menu of food we give out each month, the packing, ordering and inventorying of Government food we receive. I also coordinate the other programs we offer within the Pantry.

Not many people know, but I was once a recipient of the Food Pantry when I first moved into town over 30 years ago. I went on to volunteer alongside Sue Marston running the Pantry when founder Mary Fanslau moved. When Sue needed to step down, I took over as Director – almost 30 years ago!

I think having been in a position of need, and having to humble myself to ask for help, gave me the compassion needed to welcome each person who walks through these doors and to serve them with love, the way I was. We never ask about income. Sometimes income level doesn’t matter, people might just find themselves in an unforeseen situation and need help.





Nottingham Community Church
Unitarian Universalist
Rev. Craig Werth
Interfaith Chaplain
Sunday service 10:00 a.m.
106 Church St.
www.nottinghamuu.com

**“Love is the doctrine of this church,
the quest for truth is its sacrament,
and service is its prayer”...**

Q: What do you most enjoy about Nottingham?

A: The sense of being a community family.

The HUGE support we receive from the community whether through monetary gifts or volunteering. I believe it’s, in part, due to our Pantry just serving Nottingham residents in need.

We now have over 30 volunteers! Each one I appreciate so much because without them this pantry could not function as well as it does.

Q: What would we find you doing in your free time?

A: I am all about my Family, my Friends and my Faith!

I try to spend as much time as I can with each and love every minute of it. God gave me a heart for serving and helping others and I love serving for His glory.

Note: More information about the Food Pantry can be found in the Town Report. To make a request for food, call Chelli at 603-679-5209. Calls and messages are kept strictly confidential.



Nottingham Community Newsletter

- John Bartsch • Kathy Cinfo • Mark Peters
- Charlotte Fyfe • Mary Crockett
- Marie Slozak • Amy Mueller-Campbell

The Nottingham Community Newsletter is a community service and is published bi-monthly and mailed to every Nottingham resident. The deadline for submitting ads and articles for the July/August 2021 newsletter is June 1, 2021. Advertising size is 3.5 inches by 2 inches. Ads are \$20 for Nottingham residents and \$35 for nonresidents.

Submit news articles (word document) & ads (jpg format at 300dpi) via e-mail to adnottinghamnews@gmail.com.

The newsletter is underwritten in part by North River Printing of Nottingham.

The publication of this newsletter is a public service for informational purposes only. The Board of Selectmen is not responsible for, nor do they endorse any articles or opinions stated in this publication.

~ Submitted by the Board of Selectmen



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Fighting Invasive Aquatic Species in Nottingham

Dee Decker, NH LAKES Lake Host Local Coordinator – Pawtuckaway Lake

Nottingham has many bodies of water including North River Lake, Nottingham Lake, Round Pond, Pawtuckaway Lake and other smaller ponds, rivers and streams that are on both public and private property. Aquatic plants and animals that are invasive (nonnative) could make these water bodies uninhabitable to native species of plants and animals.

Many of our residents are aware that Pawtuckaway Lake has been infested with variable milfoil and we—the Pawtuckaway Lake Improvement Association (PLIA)—have a team of watchers, divers and specially trained SCUBA divers that diligently check known areas and carefully remove what they find. What many may not realize is that variable milfoil is not the only aquatic invasive species in Nottingham. We also have purple loosestrife, phragmites and Chinese mystery snails. These invasives spread from watercraft that move from water body to water body without being checked or cleaned, while some are carried on waterfowl.



variable milfoil

Pawtuckaway has a team of NH LAKES Lake Hosts that educate boaters on invasive plants and animals at the public boat ramps at both the State Park and at Fundy. The Lake Host team is the front line in preventing invasives from entering Pawtuckaway Lake but also any water body that people may visit in

the future, public or private. Prevention costs far less than eradication!

As the Lake Host coordinator for Pawtuckaway Lake, I am genuinely concerned that invasive species may enter Nottingham’s lakes and ponds at private boat launches and access points. In 2020, there was a massive surge in new paddle and motorboat purchases. This group of first-time boaters may not be familiar with aquatic invasive species and could unknowingly introduce an expensive problem that we are unprepared for. This is the mission of the Lake Hosts: teach boaters how to inspect their own watercraft and to “Clean, Drain & Dry” to prevent the spread of invasives when watercraft enter or leave a body of water without a Lake Host program.

Funding invasive species control is the responsibility of the town where it is located, and the most effective way of controlling spread is prevention. The Nottingham Invasive Species Prevention and Eradication Removal Expendable Trust Fund is designed to increase funds each year so that if/when the Town needs to eradicate an invasive species, funds are available. These funds are not just for Pawtuckaway Lake but for all water bodies in Nottingham. Pawtuckaway Lake Improvement Association has requested and received funds from the Town for our Lake Host Program and we greatly appreciate it. These funds are matched by PLIA members and are added to a grant from NH LAKES to fund our Lake Host Program. The PLIA has not requested any funds to help remove the milfoil, phragmites or purple loosestrife. All time and equipment have either been donated or paid for by other grants.

Please vote in favor of Warrant Article 18 on the ballot June 8th to help keep all water bodies in Nottingham free of aquatic invasive pests!

News from the School Board

The School board has been busy working on budget and warrant article preparation and planning for the Deliberative Session that was held in April. Voting Day will be held on June 8, with polls open from 7am to 7pm at the Nottingham School. More information on the School Budget and Warrant Articles on the ballot can be found on the school website. <https://www.nottingham.k12.nh.us/news/1700941/nottingham-school-district-budgets-and-warrant-articles> There is also a detailed website with additional information on the building project in Article 1, such as design plans, what the plan addresses, and costs located at: <http://www.nottinghamschoolproject.com>.

With the budget process completed, our full attention returns to the academic achievement of Nottingham students. In addition to the students we serve at Nottingham Elementary, the board keeps up to date with the progress of the high school students we tuition to Coe Brown and Dover High School. In March we met with the Dover School Board to receive information about our students and Dover’s programming and instructional model due to the pandemic. In addition, we have standing meetings with Coe Brown in May and November. Nottingham evaluates the information we receive from these meetings to ensure that our students are well-prepared for the transition to high school.

Most Nottingham students have been in school four and half days a week since the end of October and we are still providing a remote option for the families and students that need it. Not all schools in NH have been able to bring the majority of their students back for in school instruction and we are very pleased that Nottingham has been able to do so. At the first meeting of every month we receive a report from the Curriculum Director that provides information on

student assessment and programming. The Board is focused on how best to address learning loss associated with the pandemic. We are very interested in receiving information and ideas from parents and students as we work through the process. In April, teachers, staff, and administration at Nottingham School who wanted to, were able to receive the second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. Thank you to Mr. Sousa and Ms. Cardillo for arranging the clinic, and to SAU 33 in Raymond for including Nottingham School in their vaccination clinic.

The State of NH requires that students in grades 3-8 take the Statewide Assessment System tests (SAS) in English Language Arts and Math. In addition, students in grades 5-8 are assessed in Science. Our students in grades 3 and 4 took the tests in April and students in grades 5-8 will be tested in May. Using this data, along with other metrics, the school can develop a plan to address academic priorities for next year. The school district has confirmed that we will receive additional federal funding through ESSERII in the amount of \$143,460. These funds can be used through 2023 and the Board will be discussing the use of this money at School Board meetings.

Being in school offers more than academics, as students also benefit from social interaction with their peers. In March the board approved a return to spring athletics, and we hope that students and families alike will have fun participating in and attending games. We have enjoyed reading the Knightly News Jr, a newsletter created by Nottingham students with many interesting articles; wonderful work by Nottingham students!

Please check out our school website <https://www.nottingham.k12.nh.us/> to get updated information about the school. Or send an email to schoolboard@nottingham.k12.nh.us with your ideas and/or questions.



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Independent Consultant

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Blaisdell Memorial Library

Submitted by Liz Bolton, blaisdellml@comcast.net

We are OPEN! When entering please: wear a mask (we have extras), sanitize hands upon entry, observe physical distancing, and limit visits to an hour or less. If you are not feeling well or have any potential symptoms of COVID-19, please visit when you feel better. If you have been exposed and are quarantining or awaiting the results of a COVID-19 test, please wait and visit when you have been cleared. Curbside pick-up is available. Call or email us and we will put items out on our porch for pick up during open hours.

Current Hours:

Sunday/Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 10 am – 5 pm
Wednesday: 10 am – 7 pm
Thursday: 10 am – 5 pm
Friday (by appointment only): 10 am – 5 pm
Saturday: 10 am – 2 pm

Please call 679-8484 to reserve computer time or to book appointments for Fridays.

Curbside Additional Hours:

Thursday: 4 – 6 pm
Friday: 12 – 5 pm

Children’s Services:

We continue to offer online Storytime and Storytime kits-to-go as well as STEM kits.

May 4: 10:00 am – Storytime Live with Miss Robin. Storytime craft kits-to-go available at the library.

May 18: STEM kit-to-go

May 25: Adult craft kit-to-go

June 2: Start of *Wild Adventure Wednesdays* on Facebook. Each week we will feature a local family-friendly adventure.



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Mark your calendars for our July 6 – August 13 Summer Reading Program: *Tales for Tails*. Watch for upcoming information on how to sign up for and participate in our weekly programs.

Please check www.nottinghamlibrary.org/children/ or our Facebook page for additional information as it becomes available.

Teen/Tween/Young Adult:

Mr. Bunker has restarted the Blaisdell Youth Group using the program *StoryboardThat*. The first meeting was on April 28th at 6:30pm. More are on the way. Please check www.nottingham.library.org/teen-page/ for more information as it becomes available.

Adults:

Afternoon Book Group meets outdoors on clement days and via *Zoom* or *FreeConferenceCall* when the weather does not cooperate. Meeting dates are the first Thursday of the month at 1:30 pm. The May 6th title is: *Lily and the Octopus* by Steven Rowley, and the June 3rd title is: *Desert Queen: The Extraordinary Life of Gertrude Bell* by Janet Wallach. Please contact us if you would like to join this group or check out a copy.

Evening Book Group restarted remotely via Zoom. Meetings are the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm. On May 26th we will be discussing *The Whisper Network* by Chandler Baker, and, on June 23rd *KooKooLand: A Memoir* by Gloria Norris. Please contact the library at 679-8484 or email bmlcirculationdesk@gmail.com if you would like to join or check out a copy of the book.

Adult craft kits-to-go will be available the week of May 25th.

Puzzle Drive:

The library will be partnering with Nottingham Parks and Recreation on a puzzle drive. Please feel free to drop off gently used (no missing pieces please!), 250 to 1000-piece adult-level puzzles inside the library during the week of May 4-8.



Town Candidates

The following persons have declared their candidacy for the following positions for the June 8, 2021 Town Election:

Budget Committee (1 for 1 years)

Robert Kelly and Jonathan M. Sebasco

Budget Committee (2 for 3 years)

Michelle King and Jeffrey Morrison

Cemetery Trustee (1 for 3 years)

Catherine Bershtein

Library Trustee (1 for 3 years)

Catherine Bershtein and Allison Friend-Gray

Library Trustee (1 for 1 years)

M. Kate Knight-Dupuis

Planning Board (2 for 3 years)

Susan P. Mooney

Planning Board (1 for 2 Years)

Gary Anderson

Board of Selectmen (2 for 3 years)

Tiler Eaton and Eugene T. Reed and Ben Bartlett

Town Clerk (1 for 3 years)

Lori Anderson

Trustee of the Trust Funds (1 for 3 years)

James Phelps

Zoning Board (2 for 3 years)

Teresa L. Bascom and Romeo Danais

School positions open for 2021 Town Election

The following persons have declared their candidacy for the following positions for the June 8, 2021 Town Election:

School Board Member- 2 positions, 3 year term

Karyl Martin and Meagan Sebasco

School District Clerk - 1 position, 3 year term

Michael Coltin

School District Treasurer - 1 position, 2 year term

Susan Bascom and Heidi Maguire

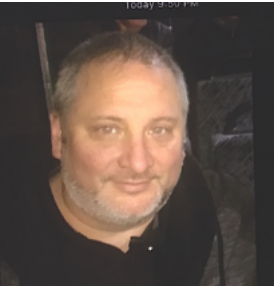
Did you Know??
This newsletter is also available as a pdf file on the Town of Nottingham Website.
It is in COLOR with active links!

To download it go to:
<https://www.nottingham-nh.gov/about-nottingham/pages/newsletter>

(Scroll down and click on the date of the newsletter you want to download)

Budget Committee, 1-year term – Robert Kelly

I am running for budget committee 1-year term. Approximately 10 years ago, I launched my own business to serve the community I live in. Budgeting is just one of the many skills I have achieved through the process. I have lived in the town of Nottingham since 2004. In my daily career as a lead aircraft technician, overseeing 15-17 commercial aircraft. I delegate qualified personnel to appropriate work assignments, help oversee proper troubleshooting, ordering effective parts, assist contracts all to help stay or reduce the overall guidelines of our operating budgets. I would bring experience and fresh ideas to the budget committee.



Thank You

Budget Committee, 3-year term – Jeffrey Morrison

Hi, my name is Jeffrey Morrison. I have lived in Nottingham for five and a half years and plan on spending the rest of my life in this great town. I am running for a position on the budget committee. This is my first time running for any publicly elected position. I am 40 years old and have worked in the mechanical trades for 22 years. As a senior project manager, I deal with budgets, schedules, timelines, customer satisfaction, problem solving as well as direction and guidance for younger employees. My main goal and also the reason I decided to run for this position is to minimize financial burden on the taxpayer. I watch people work hard to earn a living every day and I am a firm believer that any tax dollars spent, must be spent wisely and in the best interest of the residents. I would like to thank every Nottingham resident for taking their time to read my introduction.



Library Trustee, 3-Year Term – Allison Friend-Gray

My name is Allison Friend-Gray, and I am a candidate for the three-year Library Trustee position. I have lived in Nottingham since 2005, but I grew up in this area, so this place has always felt like home. I am joined here by my husband, Eli; our three school-aged children, ages 8, 11, and 14; and our three fur children. As a third-grade teacher at Nottingham School, I feel blessed to nurture many other children in addition to my own.



I believe that libraries play a crucial role in a healthy community. A library allows for open access to information; patrons of the library can explore the world via books, newspapers, multimedia, and the internet. It is also an important gathering place that fosters community connections, creativity, and a love of learning. Libraries encourage engagement and involvement and make our community a better place.

I currently serve on the Board as the Treasurer. As a result, I bring organizational knowledge and experience to this position. I would be delighted to continue to serve the community as a member of the Library Board of Trustees and would appreciate your vote on June 8th.

Nottingham School District Clerk – Michael Coltin

My name is Michael Coltin and am running for re-election as Nottingham School District Clerk. I am currently retired after 34 years' experience in education including 17 years as an Associate Principal in grades K-8. I have also served in the Navy.



I am knowledgeable of education procedures, which is an asset in serving as school district clerk. I am privileged to serve the Nottingham community, and would appreciate your vote on June 8th.

Zoning Board – Romeo Danaïs

Romeo Danaïs is in the running for a position on the Zoning Board of Adjustment.



Romeo served on the ZBA in the past for two terms and didn't continue as a member due to his service in the NH House of Representatives. Being a State Representative took a major amount of time in order to study each Bill and vote on it in a wise manner.

Being self-employed in the real estate property management business, Romeo has an excellent background regarding zoning issues and how they impact the community.

Romeo has a deep interest in serving the Nottingham community, as well as the state and the nation in general. Romeo also served four years in the US Army during the Vietnam action. From National to State to Community, Romeo is actively engaged in serving for the betterment of all.

Please vote for Romeo Danaïs for ZBA.

Nancy Frost
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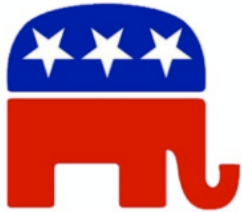
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Nottingham Republicans Committee

Nottingham Republicans meet the second Thursday each month at 7:00 PM. We are now meeting at New Hope Church on Route 156, 34 Raymond Road in Nottingham. If you would like information on our Committee you may email Pat Desrosiers at memedesrosiers@gmail.com. All Republicans, conservatives, Libertarians and Independents who value liberty, fiscal responsibility and limited government are encouraged to attend.

We have legislative updates from our Republican state reps. Come and meet our town state representative, Alan Bershtein, who can address your concerns with current state issues and answer questions you may



have. An informed citizenry can make better decisions on state and local issues

The Committee is organizing a Candidate's Information night for the candidates who are running for various positions in the upcoming town elections. The event will be held at the Marston Property on Mill Pond Road across from Case Road May 22nd at 1pm. This will be an outdoor event, so please bring your chairs.

Tuesday June 8th is Town Election Day. The voting hours are from 7 am – 7 pm at the Nottingham Elementary School. We encourage everyone to vote. This is your chance to make an impact on who governs the town and the direction we should pursue.

Our next two meetings will be May 13th and June 10th.

Nottingham Democrats

Submitted by the Nottingham Democratic Committee

We are a friendly group of Nottingham residents who support the democratic ideals of truth, justice and equality for all. We believe in science and thoughtful

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stewardship of the environment. We believe in unity and being a good neighbor.

All Democrats, Independents and Undeclared are invited to join us (or just listen in) at our meetings held on the second Wednesday of each month, 7:00 pm. *Until further notice, meetings are being held by Zoom – ask for a link to be sent to you by emailing HWR-NottDems@comcast.net*

Community members of all ages can sign up to join “Team Dems” and participate in Nottingham Trail Clean Up days and litter pick up, Earth Fest, and working as a volunteer for the Nottingham Tricentennial planning and festivities. There are also opportunities for social and political activism. Stay up to date by joining and “liking” us on Facebook at: NottinghamNHDemocrats@nottinghamsdems.com.

Town Elections are being held on Tuesday, June 8th - VOTE!

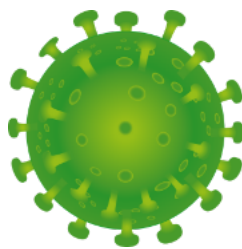
Need more information about the candidates for Town Offices? Or information about the pros and cons of Articles on the School and Town Warrants, or proposed zoning amendments, or which proposals impact our property taxes and our quality of life, or what is a citizen petition? Then join us at our Wednesday, May 12th meeting, 7:00 pm! You can just listen in, or actively participate in the presentations and discussions. Email HWR-NottDems@comcast.net to have a Zoom link emailed to you.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 9th- the day after our local elections – so there will be plenty to talk about! Happy Spring everyone!

Below: Led by Nottingham Parks & Recreation's Kortney Dorow and Bridget Hart, a team of Nottingham Democrats volunteered for April's successful Trail Cleanup Event.



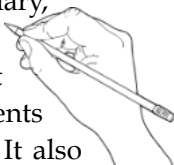
Today is Tomorrow’s History – Life During the Pandemic
Please give us your take on it!



The Nottingham Historical Society is collecting personal stories and other creative pieces from Nottingham residents in an effort to record life during the COVID-19 pandemic. We would appreciate contributions from any who are willing to share, because today will be history tomorrow. We are suggesting just a few ways for you to start to collect your ideas. Keep in mind that these are only some ideas to help you overcome any potential bout of writer’s block. What follows is a series of prompts to get you started! You likely have other pandemic-related ideas you would like to write about, and those are more than welcome.

Some Questions: You could write an essay or short paragraph or two that includes such topics as: Have you learned any new hobbies or activities? Have you discovered new local places of interest? How have your daily routines changed for work, shopping, relaxing etc.? What have you struggled with during the quarantine? What if anything, have you enjoyed about the quarantine? How has the pandemic changed your life? What do you look forward to most when the pandemic ends?

Personal diaries are one way we have come to know about life in the past. If you keep a diary, perhaps you could share a few excerpts relative to the pandemic. The simple act of recording your daily thoughts documents what life has been like during 2020-21. It also provides a window into the experiences of someone living through the pandemic as it happened.



Other Ways: There are any number of other ways to express your thoughts. You could write a poem or a

song. If you are not comfortable writing, you could make an audio recording, paint a picture, make a collage, or put together a photo essay. Decide on a format that works best for you.

Additional ideas you might pursue, in any format, are your reactions to specific types of situations such as working from home, Zoom meetings, remote learning, or grocery shopping during the quarantine. You could describe how you spent your extra time at home or how you modified your interactions with others so as not to put anyone at risk.



Deadline: We would like to receive your contribution to Nottingham’s history of life during the COVID pandemic by June 30th—sooner would be better than later, but any time prior to that date is more than acceptable! (And we won’t reject anything you submit after that either!!)

Submitting: You can submit your work electronically to the nottinghamhistoricalsociety@gmail.com or mail it to the Nottingham Historical Society, PO Box 241, Nottingham, NH 03290. If your creation cannot be submitted by email or US Mail, let us know by email and we can arrange to have someone meet you at the museum.

Permission: By submitting, you are granting permission for your work to become a part of the Nottingham Historical Society’s COVID-19 collection. This includes any and all rights to include your work in any future publications. If published, only your first name and last initial will be used. Or, if you prefer, the work could be attributed to “Anonymous.”

Thank you!



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Sponsor a Flag
Submitted by the Nottingham 300th Committee

In honor of Nottingham's 300th anniversary, it has been decided to fly historical flags in the vicinity of Nottingham Square to commemorate some of the battles fought by early Nottingham patriots. In the summer of 2019, students at the Nottingham School Summer Institute were challenged to research what flags would be appropriate. We are seeking sponsors for the flags. Sponsors will be listed in the Commemorative Program Book that will be passed out for free during 2022. If you are interested in sponsoring a flag, please send an email to nottingham300th@gmail.com or call Rhoda at 942-8539. The cost of sponsorship is \$50. **Some flags have sponsors already, here are the ones the 300th Committee chose from the Summer Institute students list that are still available:**

Sons of Liberty:

The original Sons of Liberty flag had red and white vertical strips but was outlawed by the British. So, the colonists reversed the direction of the stripes and kept using it. There was wide support of the Sons of Liberty in Town. Patriots from Nottingham including Joseph Cilley, Henry Dearborn and others participated in the Sons of Liberty action of storming Fort William and Mary and removing of gunpowder from its stores and hiding it in houses on the Square and elsewhere in the Seacoast.

Flag of the 2nd New Hampshire:

The 2nd NH Regiment was formed with Enoch Poor as Commander and Joseph Cilley of Nottingham as Major. The 2nd took part in the siege of Boston, fought in Quebec, Saratoga and Fort Ticonderoga and later in Trenton and Princeton. John Whitehorn of Nottingham was wounded at Ticonderoga and lost



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the use of his knee. Joseph Merrill Thomas of Nottingham died at the second battle of Saratoga.

Flag of the First Rhode Island Regiment:

The 1st Rhode Island Regiment consisted of both free and enslaved African Americans, American Indians, and white colonists. Thomas Bartlett of Nottingham fought with the Colonial Whipple Regiment in the Battle of Rhode Island in 1778 along with the First Rhode Islanders.

British Red Ensign Flag:

This is the flag that would have been flown from the time of the granting of Nottingham's charter (1722) to the American Revolution.

New Hope Church

Worship at New Hope is every Sunday at 10:00 AM. We meet at New Hope Church on 34 Raymond Road. If you would like to Zoom worship, you can email Pastor Ted White at ted@new-hopechurch.com. We are also on Facebook live. Come and join us.

We have started a **Discovery Group**. What is a Discovery Group? It is two or more people gathering together to learn God’s Word. There is not a teacher in this group. Instead, everybody gives input from the portion being observed. There is no expert in the group and everybody’s input is valued. Want to come to a group or start a group? Groups meet online or in person. Contact ted@new-hopechurch.com or call/text at 603-285-3533. If there is no answer, please leave a message saying you are interested in the Discovery Group and Ted will get back to you.

The next Discovery Workshop will be announced. If you would like more information, please contact Ted at the above email address.



Need a helping hand or a listening ear?
Call Pastor Ted White 285-3533 or
Chaplain Gary Anderson 231-5216

New Hope Church
PO Box 74
34 Raymond Rd
Nottingham, NH 03290

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” —Matthew 11:28-30
www.new-hopechurch.com Join us 10am on Sundays.

Parks and Recreation Department News

Submitted by Kortney Dorow, Director
Phone: 679-3435 x107 email: recreation2@nottingham-nh.gov

Recreation Office Hours: M-F 8:00 am- 4:00 pm

Please make sure to check out our website, Facebook and Instagram page for all up-to-date programming. We consistently have new programs that are added to our page at various times of the year, and we can't always get them into this newsletter.

<https://www.nottingham-nh.gov/recreation-department>
<https://www.facebook.com/nottinghamrecreation/>

We are also now on TWITTER! Please follow us @ParksNottingham to get up to date information on programs, cancellations, resources and so much more.

Are you on our email list? Do you want updates and new program information delivered right to your inbox?? Just send us an email OR visit our recreation department website noted above and fill out the form located on our homepage!

Nottingham Parks & Rec Sponsorship Opportunities:

We are happy to announce that we are (almost) back in action! We are hopeful that we can offer quality programming and events that meet the needs of our community. Visit our website if you or your business is interested in partnering with us in 2021!

If you haven't received our Summer/Fall Publication, please stop by the Parks & Recreation Office to pick up your copy now. There is a bunch of information regarding Summer Camps, After School Care, Summer Concert Series, Earth Fest AND MORE.

Upcoming Events and Dates:

- 5/8/21- Annual Fishing Derby
- 5/19/21 Legacy Luncheon (55+) Delivery


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- 6/16/21 Legacy Luncheon (55+) Picnic!
- 6/12/21 NEW** Plant Swap
- 6/28/21 SUMMER CAMP BEGINS.

Please keep checking our website for updated information relating to COVID-19 and event details.

Marston Fields: January 2021 Update

The construction activity at the Marston Property has stopped to allow for fundraising to continue and grass to grow on the new fields. The property is open for use and the town is plowing the parking lot. Please continue to remain off the large field area adjacent to Mill Pond Rd. This is the location of the recreation fields. Last summer's drought hurt the grass planted on those fields. The fields required an additional application of seed and fertilizer in the late fall to combat the drought effects and allow for spring growth. Even the smallest of impacts on this area while the turf is young will hamper the short-term growth and long-term strength of the grass.

In the spring and summer, we hope to see backstops erected and the beginnings of the trail system to take shape. The next priority is the design and construction of a pavilion area. We have again jump-started our fundraising efforts, reaching out to businesses in Southern NH area. Our grant applications continue as well. Last year we were initially successful but were ultimately hurt by our inability to produce matching funds in a very short timeframe. This year we expect to be extremely competitive again. We are trying to stay in front of the grant application process by having the matching funds already on hand. This is a dollar-for-dollar match, so your donation will go a long way. The NYA is a qualified 501(C)(3) organization, and all funds earmarked will be used for improvements to the entire property, not simply athletic areas. If you are interested in becoming a Friend of Marston, donations can be made a few different ways:

1. Via Venmo to @NYAFriendsOfMarston
2. PayPal: Go to Nottingham Youth Association. Please ensure any donations sent are noted with a description of "Marston."
3. Or by Check: Nottingham Youth Association, P.O. Box 98, Nottingham, NH 03290

Wherever your donation is made, please remember to write "MARSTON" in the description. If you are paying by CHECK, please write "MARSTON" on the memo line. Thank you!

Town of Nottingham, Marston Fundraising Committee

TREX RECYCLING UPDATE:

We are excited to announce that Nottingham has done it again!! We have collected enough plastic and received ANOTHER bench. This bench has been donated to the Nottingham School and will live out by the playground. Check our website for when the next round will begin. Thank you all so much for participating!!

Collection Sites: Town Hall or the Recycling Center

PROGRAMMING AND RENTALS:

Please go to our website to see what programs are being offered at this time: <https://www.nottingham-nh.gov/recreation-department>

We have information up regarding Summer Camps, After School Care, Summer Concert Series, Earth Fest and more.

What's in a name? Dame or Van Dame

Submitted by the Nottingham Historical Society

The Nottingham Historical Society is housed in an old schoolhouse adjacent to the Town Offices. For many years it was known as the Center Schoolhouse and was located across the street from the library. So when and why did it start being known as the Dame School and/or the Van Dame School?

It is often referred to as the Dame School by older residents in town. Traditionally a Dame School was a New England schoolhouse taught by women or "Dames". This does not appear to be the case for this building. In 1980, the school was listed with the National Register of Historic Places as the "Center School or Dame School". At some point, the Historical Society changed the name to the Van Dame Schoolhouse. There may have been some presumption that the name "Dame" was in reference to Van Dame, who was not only the school's first teacher, but established a trust fund to ensure its students had needed educational materials, and donated the quill weathervane that still sits on top of the school steeple.

While working on a book of the Town's history for the tricentennial, members of the Historical Society recently uncovered what seems to indicate that contrary to what had been believed, the building was never used as a church. It was built originally as a high school for the Reverend Bartholomew Van

Dame. There is a deed for the land adjacent to the original Town Hall where the building sat, from March 19, 1849 (RCRD Bk 344 Pg 71) from John Chesley to several proprietors of a building called the Union High School or Union Institute.

According to the Free Baptist Cyclopedia (p. 661) a school was built there in 1849 by friends of Bartholomew Van Dame and he became the teacher of the high school. The existence of the Institute is confirmed by the Biographical Cyclopedia of Representative Men of Rhode Island (page 282, Issue 589) that says Aura L. Gerrish, originally from Nottingham, was educated in a course preparatory for college at the Nottingham Union Institute, taught by Rev. Bartholomew Van Dame, and by private instructors.

In 1871 the land and building were deeded to Nottingham School District 13. The town gradually used it as a grammar school eventually taking it over completely in 1878 and naming it the Center School, perhaps to reflect the fact that the Nottingham Square part of town was no longer considered the center of town. With the information we have recently learned it now appears that calling the building the Van Dame Schoolhouse is appropriate.



The Dame Schoolhouse in its original location, next to the old town hall, before its move across the bridge and street in 1954.

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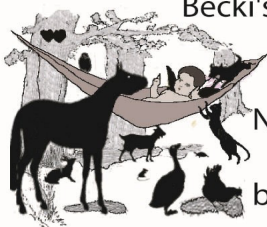
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